WILLIAM S. COHEN

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

March 30, 1993

Lauren J. Belvin, Acting Director Office of Legislative Affairs Federal Communications Commission Room 808 1919 M Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Ms. Belvin:

Enclosed please find copies of letters from a number of my constituents in Maine concerning the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Notice of Proposed Rule Making in PR Docket No. 92-235 which proposes comprehensive changes to the FCC rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating on frequency bands below 512 MHz.

As you will note, these Maine residents are concerned about the effects that this proposal may have on individuals who use frequencies in the 72-76 MHz band for operating radio controlled model airplanes.

I understand that the comment period on this proceeding, which was set for February 26, 1993, has been extended until May 28. In an effort to be of assistance to my constituents, I am forwarding their letters to you and respectfully request that their concerns be carefully considered during the FCC's deliberations on this issue.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

With best wishes, I am

William S.

United States Senator

WSC:pmc Enclosure

N.A. of Copies rec'd

31 January 1993

The Honorable William Cohen U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

APR - 7 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Senator Cohen:

I am very concerned about the proposed rule that is currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rule will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for R/C model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability.

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February 13, 1993 RECEIVED

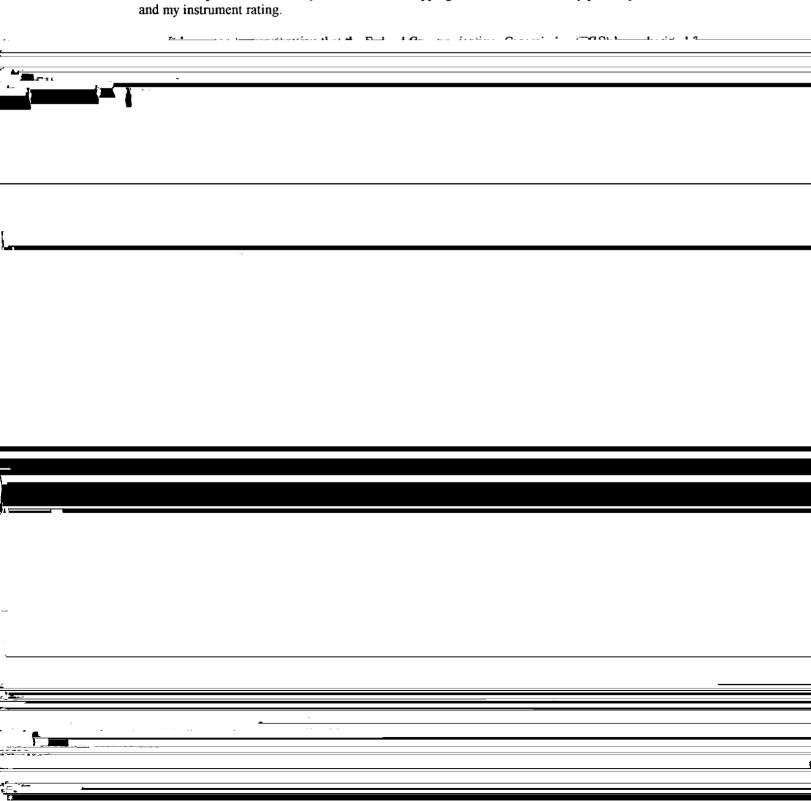
The Honorable William S. Cohen 202 Harlow Street Bangor, ME 04401

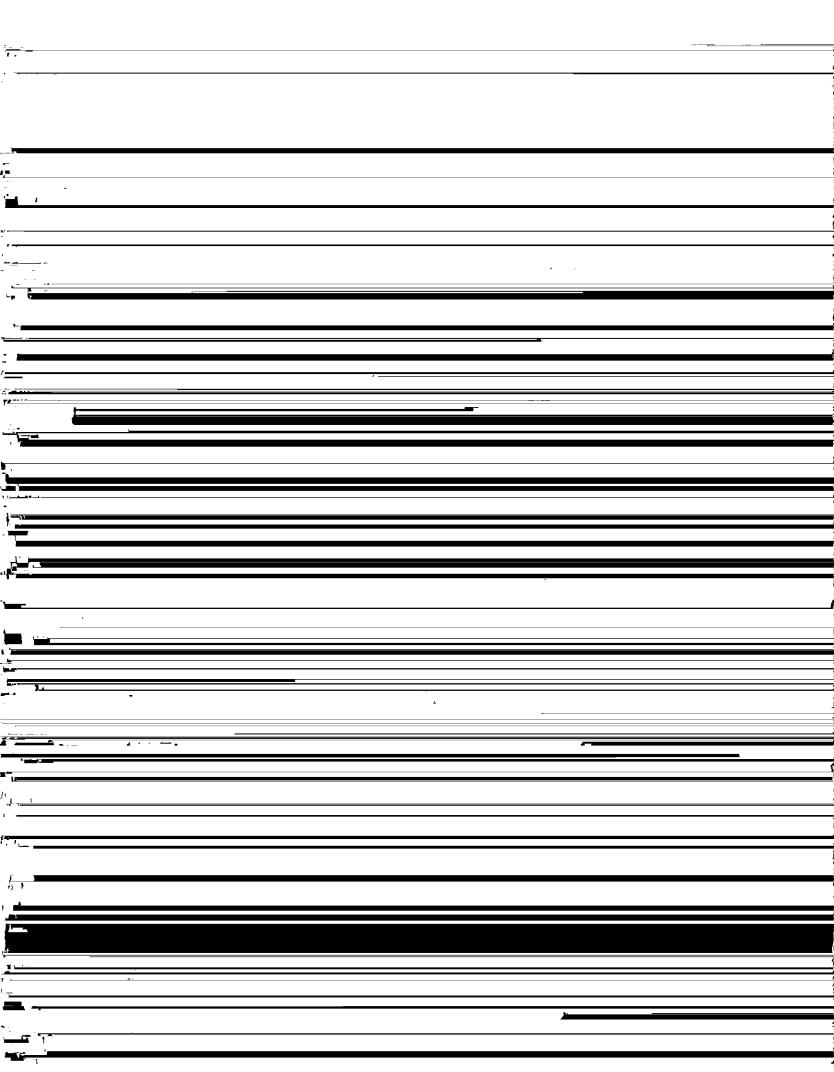
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSIO

Dear Senator Cohen:

I am an aviation enthusiast and have been all of my life! About five years ago I was finally able to do more than dream about airplanes and flying. It was at that time that I was introduced to the world of radio controlled model airplanes. Since that time my whole family has become involved with the hobby. We are very active with a local group of radio control modelers and spend many relaxing hours enjoying our favorite pursuit. This hobby also served as a stepping stone for me to earn my private pilot certificate and my instrument rating.





operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contribute to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHZ band.

Sincerely.

Charles T. Quartuccio

Howlest. Oreastrices

February 23, 1993

### RECEIVED

The Honorable William S. Cohen 10 Moulton St. Portland, Maine 04101

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/ PR - 7:1993

Dear Senator Cohen,

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

I am retired and derive many hours of enjoyment from constructing and operating radio controlled models.

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the FCC. The proceeding is PR Docket 221235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies pure until assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes.

cur radio control frequencies are in the 72-76MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

Now the PCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many

/ PR - 7 1993

The Honorable William Cohen United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Senator Cohen

I derive many hours of enjoyment from constructing and operating radio-controlled models. I also have many friends and radio controlled club members in my area of Maine that feel the same way I do. I personally own \_\_\_\_ radios, \_\_\_ radio controlled models and many other products necessary to operate my radio control models.

I am very concerned about the proposed rule that is currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission(F.C.C.). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted the new rule will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies in this band currently assigned for R/C model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability.

Our radio-control frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio-control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

The Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in **PR Docket 92-235** replaces Part 90 of the rules with a new Part 88. Part 90 allows for safe use of R/C aircraft and surface models by keeping 10 Khz spacing between fixed commercial users and frequencies used by R/C enthusiast. The new Part 88 will allow mobile users on frequencies within 2.5 Khz of frequencies used and available to us, eliminating safe use of at least 31 of the only 50 channels on the 72 MHz band (for R/C cars and boats) now used by hobbyist. In fact more channels will likely be affected.

When we operate our R/C models, we go to great lengths to assure the safty of the operators and bystanders and protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safty will be greatly decreased.

I don't think it is wise of the FCC to seek to expand the operation conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of the expense of the radio-control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radio, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. It is a sizeable industry that must be saved from these detrimental FCC actions. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to hundreds of thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please helprime continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposal PR DOCKET 92-235 for the 72-76 MHz band. We all need your help urgently because the FCC has a deadline of Pebruary 26, 1993 after which it may become more difficult to avoid halting these proposals from going into effect.

Steve Palys RFD #5, Box 494 Ellsworth, INE 04665

Sincerely,

Skie Cary

The Honorable William: Cohen, 1: 18 192 - 7 19933 February, 1993 United States Senate. Washington, DC, 20510. FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Senator Cohen,

I am writing to express my concern about the FCC's upcoming proposal to allocate frequencies dangerously close to those already used by radio control aircraft for use by mobile cellular telephones. I have been an avid flyer of model aircraft since 1977. In that time, I have invested many thousands of dollars and hours in this pursuit. If reallocation of these frequencies is approved, all of my equipment will become useless to me, as the prospect of being "shot down" by a cellular mobile phone imposes too big a threat to the citizens and property in the area where I fly. In addition, the risk of crashing a model in which I have invested hundreds of hours and at least as many dollars would be unacceptable to me.

Mobile cellular telephones are considerably more powerful than the radios used to control model airplanes. In addition, they are mobile, so their presence cannot be predicted. Furthermore, existing in such large quantity, statistics dictate that a certain percentage of them will drift off of their assigned frequencies even closer to the R/C frequencies. Finally, I would like to impress upon you the fact that R/C aircraft are of sufficient mass and speed to pose an extreme danger to life and property when out of control.

As the treasurer of The Bangor R/C Gulls, one of many radio control airplane clubs in the state, I speak for the entire roster of the club, as well as many local merchants who depend on our business. We urge you to vote against this reallocation, PR Docket 92-235. represents a true threat to our interests. Please contact me if you would like to discuss this issue further, or you would like to come out to our field, see the planes, and meet our membership.

Thank you for your time.

Seth Wolpert, Ph.D.

Sed Wobert

Dept of Electrical Engineering,

The University of Maine,

Orono, Me., 04469

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are as important as business users of radio, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment, let alone my lively hood. It is a billion dollar industry that must be saved from these detrimental FCC actions. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to hundreds of thousands of people and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me continue my business without interference by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposal PR Docket 92-235 for the 72-76 MHz band. We need your help urgently because the FCC has a deadline of February 26, 1993 after which it may become more difficult to avoid this economic mistake.

Sincerely,

Michael Fasulo

President

HOBBIES UNLIMITED 426 US RT. 1 SCARBOROUGH, ME 04074

/ PR - 7 1993

100 FE 20 3 51

James T. Armstrong III Rural Route 1, Box 27 Topsham, ME 04086 (207)725-5758 (home) (207) 442-2706 (work) FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

14 Feb. 1993

The Honorable William S. Cohen 322 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510-1901

Dear Senator Cohen,

Request your assistance to prevent a proposed FCC rule change PR Docket 92-235 from going into effect. If adopted this will greatly reduce the use ability of frequencies currently assigned for controlling radio control models and would definitely increase the risk of having serious accidents.

Radio controlled planes can travel at a significant speed (e.g., up to 190 MPH) and helicopters are extremely difficult to control because you are controlling three axis's at once. If interfered with serious accidents will happen.

If PR Docket 92-235 is adopted only 19 of the currently available channels will be available for model use. This causes two other significant problems.

It will cause a financial hardship on those that will have to change their equipment to the authorized channels. A new RF module for my transmitter cost ~\$90.00 and Crystals cost ~\$30.00 with alignment costs extra. I have four R/C outfits that would have to be changed. Since I am a federal worker and in severe danger of being laid off, I can't afford to change.

Some may say that nineteen frequencies should be good enough. It isn't. Even with the 50 channels that we now have, there are conflicts between people that want to fly but can't because they are on the same frequency. In Maine this is a significant problem in the Spring and Fall, when there isn't much daylight left after work. There are sixty Modelers in the Brunswick Area Modelers Club that I belong to; and twenty-five in the Downeast Soaring Club which I also belong to. You can see that the conflicts we now

2 Frankwood Drive Winslow, ME 04901

February 11, 1993

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The Honorable William S. Cohen United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cohen:

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

I am a member of the Kennebec Valley Model Aviators. I enjoy constructing and operating radio controlled model airplanes. My purpose in writing to you is to request your assistance in preventing a serious threat to the future of my chosen hobby by proposed Federal Communications Commission rulemaking.

I am very concerned about the rules being proposed in FR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accident liability for controlling airplanes.

Cur frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other. Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. I am told that as a result of these new rules only 19 of the 50 frequencies available for radio control of model airplanes will remain available to us.

Flease understand that many model airplanes have wingspans of up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 30 pounds. These models are expensive to build; but more to the point they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the aircraft. When we fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying

The Honorable WILLIAM S. COHEN United States Senate Washington. D.C. 20510

APR - 7 1993

Dear Senator Cohen:

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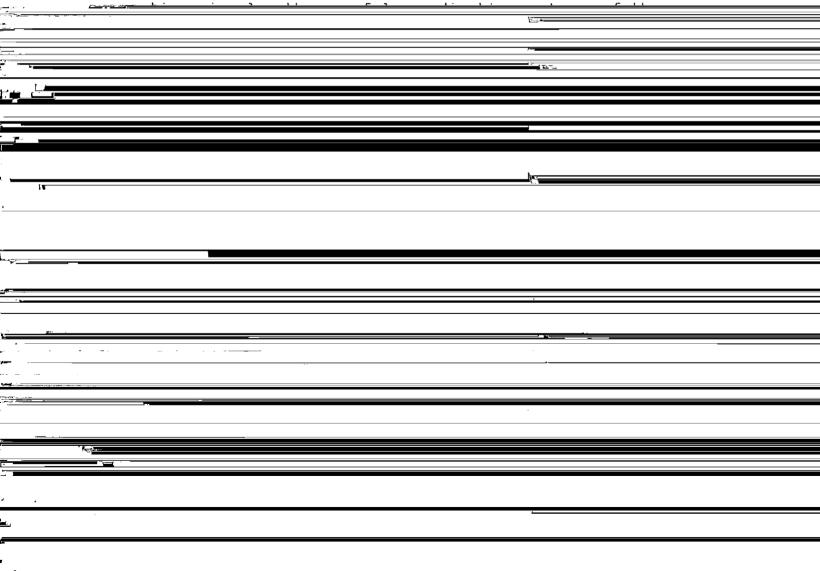
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendent liability for controlling model planes.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

I am told that of the 50 <u>frequencies</u> that are presently available for radio control of model airplanes, only 19 frequencies will be left if the new rules are adopted.

When we fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety



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74 Newland Ave. Augusta, Maine 04330 February 7, 1993

The Honorable William S.Cohen 322 Hart Senate Office Bldg. Washington DC.

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/PR - 7 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Senator Cohen,

I am very concerned about the rule being proposed in PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accident liability for controlling radio controlled model aircraft.

The frequencies in question, in the 72-76 MHz band, are also shared by mobile dispatch operations. The frequencies are now far enough apart as to pose no problems. If passed, Docket 92-235 will place **new** frequencies close enough to those assigned to radio control models as to pose a significant and perhaps fatal risk. If passed, only 19 of the present frequencies will remain available for the millions of R/C modelers.

Many model airplanes have wingspan of 10 feet or more, can weigh in excess of 50 pounds, and exceed speeds of 100 miles per hour. It is plain to see that an out of control aircraft of this nature, or one significantly smaller in size, with an "11 inch rotary knife" spinning at 12,000 r.p.m. is capable of causing property damage, serious injury, and even death. Modelers go to great lengths to assure the safety of pilots, spectators, and personal property alike and are governed by an already extensive set of rules at the national level, not withstanding the rules imposed by the local clubs.

If only 19 frequencies remain for our use, the degree of congestion will greatly reduce the margin of safety we strive to create. Please help me to continue safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out it's proposal for Docket 92-235.

You continued supporter,

Frank Rende

APR - 7 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

1583 F.58 16 Ph 4: 16

Walter E. Emery 16 Key St. Eastport ME 04631 2-8-93

Senator William Cohen

APR - 7 1993

February 11, 1993

James Waugh
P O Box 28
Cape Neddick ME 03902

#33 TEV 1 3 49

The Honorable William Cohen United States Senate Washington D C 20150

Dear Mr. Cohen:

For more than forty years I have derived many hours of enjoyment from the construction and flying of radio controlled model airplanes. My interest grew out of my living next to the old airbase in Presque Isle and my youthful activity in Air Scouts. My present activity in the hobby is with a local club in southern Maine and New Hampshire of which there are four of more than one hundred members.

I am concerned about current proposed rule changes being considered by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The preceding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, these new rules would reduce the useability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and modeler liability for controlling model airplanes.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz Band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. At present, frequencies are far enough apart that we have been able to share the band without interference.

The FCC now wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths. This would result in moving mobile frequencies closer to radio control frequencies and dangerously increase the risk of interference.

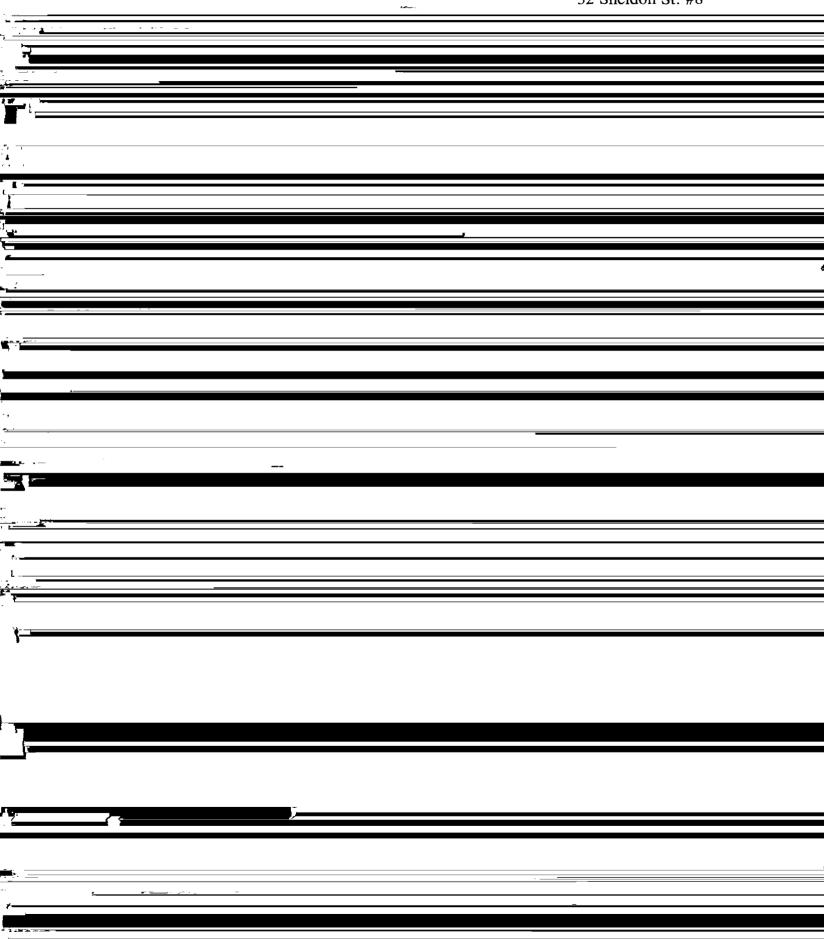
Radio controlled model airplanes have a fantastic safety record. When you consider that these models have wing spans up to ten feet, weigh as much as 30-40 pounds, are expensive to build and are capable of causing serious injury if radio interference causes the operator to lose control. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I enlist your help in my enjoying this safe hobby and ask you to DISCOURAGE the FCC in its proposal to change 72-76 MHz Band.

Sames Waugh AMA 127247

Sincerely,

Academy of Model Aeronautics



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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY.

The Honorable William S. Collision 10 7 1:0!

Dear Senator Calcul

I am very concerned about the proposed rule that is currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted the new rule will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for R\C models use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability.

Our radio-control frequencies are in the &72-76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio-control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

The notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in PR Docket 92-235 replaces Part 90 of the rules with a new Part 88. Part 90 allows for safe use of R\C aircraft and surface models by keeping 10Khz spacing between fixed commercial users and frequencies used by R\C enthusiasts. The new Part 88 will allow mobile users on frequencies 2.5Khz of frequencies available to us, eliminating safe use of at least 31 of the 50 channels on the 72 MHz band (for R\C aircraft) and 10 of the 30 frequencies on the 75 MHz band (for R\C cars and boats) now used by hobbyists. In fact, more channels will likely be affected.

When we operate our R\C models, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and the bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become

congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

I don't think it is wise of the FCC to seek to expand the operation conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of the radio-control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radio, but we have a considerable investment in our models and radio equipment. It is a sizable industry that must be saved form these detrimental FCC actions. The hobby provides many hours on enjoyment to hundreds of thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancements and development of the commercial aviation industry.

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February 13, 1993 RECEIVED

The Honorable William Cohen United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

	Dear Senator Cohen	OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
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The Honorable William Cohen United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

/PR - 7 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Senator Cohen

I derive many hours of enjoyment from constructing and operating radio-controlled models. I also have many friends and radio controlled club members in my area of Maine that feel the same way I do. I personally own \_\_\_\_ radios,\_\_\_ radio controlled models and many other products necessary to operate my radio control models.

I am very concerned about the proposed rule that is currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (F.C.C.). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted the new rule will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies in this band currently assigned for R/C model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liabilty.

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Please helprme continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allow ing the FCC to carry out its proposal PR DOCKET 92-235 for the 72-76 MHz band. We all need your help urgently because the FCC has a deadline of February 26, 1993 after which it may become more difficult to avoid halting these proposals from going into effect.

238 Lincoln St. Banson, Me 64401

/PR - 7 1993

The Honorable William Cohen United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Senator Cohen

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The Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in **PR Docket 92-235** replace Part 90 of the rules with a new Part 88. Part 90 allows for safe use of R/C aircraft and surface models by keeping 10 Khz spacing between fixed commercial users and frequencies used by R/C enthusiast. The new Part 88 will allow mobile users on frequencies within 2.5 Khz of frequencies used and available to us, eliminating safe use of at least 31 of the only 50 channels on the 72 MHz band (for R/C cars and boats) now used by hobbyist.

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APR - 7 1993

The Honorable William Cohen United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

THE HONORABLE SENATOR COHEN UNITED STATES SENATE WASHINGTON, DC 265100 19 11 4: 11 W. HOUGHOUS II PARK ST ELIOT, ME 03903 2/15/42 CEIVED

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

SUBJECT: DIS APPROVAL OF FCC NOTICE OF PROPOSITE PRUESCAFING NG (NPRM - PR DOCKET 92-235)...comments 84 2/26/93

DEAR SENATOR:

I AM OPPOSED TO THE AGOVE PROPOSED RULE CHANGE, I AM A RADIO CONTROL (RC) MODEL AIRPLANCE FLIER, DUE TO A HEART CONDITION, I WILL NEVER BE A REAL PILOT, BUT THRU MODEL AVIATION, I ATTAIN THE SAME FREEDOWN OF FLIGHT FROM THE GROWN, MY PLANES COST AN AVERAGE OF 8400 APIECE, PLY FROM 20-100 MPH AND HAVE WINGSPANS FROM 3 TO 6 FEET, BECAUSE OF THE SIZE AND SPEED OF THESE AIRCRAFT, THEY CAN BE VERY DANGEROUS IF NOT PROPERLY CONTROLLED. THEY CARRY SUFFICIENT ENERGY TO BE LETHAL IF THEY SHOUD STRIKE A HUMAN. TO MAINTAIN SAPETY, THERE ARE SPECIAL RADIO FREQUENCIES CURRENTLY DESIGNATED BY THE FCC FOR USE ONLY BY RADIO CONTROLLED AIRCRAFT. OUR ORGANIZED CLUBS (I BUZONG TO TWO) OFTEN PARTICIPATE IN SHOWS INVOLVING HUMDREDS OF SPECTATORS, AND AS A RESULT, THE SAFETY ISSUE IS PARAMOUNT.

THE PROPOSED FCC RULE CHANGE ALLOWS NEW REQUENCIES FOR MOBILE OPERATORS EXTREMELY CLOSE TO OUR REJERVED PREQUENCIES. SINCE CEMMERCIAL TRANSMITTERS ARE FOUR TIMES AS STRONG AS OUR AIRCRAFT TRANSMITTERS, THEY DOMINATE THE AIRWAVES, IF ONE OF THESE PREQUENCIES WERE USED NEAR ONE OF OUR FLYING FIELDS, OUR PLANES WOULD CRASH, IF WEWERE LUCKY, ONLY INTO THE GROUND OR A TREE OR HOUSE AND NOT INTO A PERSON, PLEASE TAKE A STAND AGAINST PR DOCKET 92-235, WE CANNOT AFORD TO ALLOW THIS HAZARDOUS RULE TO PAS.

SINCERELY Aforglar

n a company and the state of th